Abstract of the Disclosure

To simplify network device configuration tasks, the present invention provides a sequence of configuration tabs corresponding to at least one physical layer network protocol provisioning task and at least one upper layer network protocol provisioning task. The tabs are dialog chained or linked together to easily and quickly guide a network manager through the series of steps necessary to provision particular network device services. Each tab presents a network manager with valid configuration options and, thus, each tab has wizard-like properties to avoid mis-configuration errors.

Both the order of the tabs graphically presented to the network manager and forward and backward buttons that link the tabs allow the network manager to efficiently complete configuration tasks.